

=Abstract=

**Clinical characteristics and prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma  
in relation to the type of hepatitis virus**

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**Background** : Hepatocellular carcinoma(HCC) is one of the important causes of cancer-related mortality and morbidity in East Asia, including Korea. Most of the hepatocellular carcinoma in Korea are associated with hepatitis B and C virus infection. The clinical characteristics and prognosis of the patients with HCC were evaluated in relation to the type of hepatitis virus.

**Methods** : A retrospective analysis of the clinical data and survival rate was done in 603 patients(M:F=4.9:1, mean age; 54.2 years) who were admitted to Yonsei medical center from April, 1991 through April, 1994.

**Results** : Among 603 patients, tests for HBsAg and anti-HCV was done simultaneously in 455 patients. Out of the 455 HCC patients, 303 patients (66.6%) were classified as Group B(HBsAg+ve, anti-HCV-ve), 102 patients (22.4%) were classified as Group C (HBsAg-ve, anti-HCV+ve), 45 patients (9.9%) were classified as Group non-BC (HBsAg-ve, anti-HCV-ve), and 5 patients (1.1%) were classified as Group BC (HBsAg+ve, anti-HCV+ve). The mean age of the patients in Group C was older than that of Group B (64.9 vs. 51.3 yr) ( $p<0.05$ ). Liver cirrhosis was frequently noticed in Group C than Group B (84.3 vs. 68.0%) ( $p<0.05$ ). The number of the patients whose serum  $\alpha$ FP level was elevated ( $\geq 400$  ng/mL) was significantly higher in Group B than in Group C (70.0 vs. 52.0%)( $p<0.05$ ). According to the gross type, nodular type was more common in Group C than in Group B(72.0 vs. 38.1%) ( $p<0.01$ ). The incidence of portal vein thrombosis was significantly lower in Group C compared with that in Group B (16.7 vs. 31.4%)( $p<0.05$ ). The number of the patients whose tumor size of less than 5 cm was significantly higher in Group C than in Group B (35.3 vs. 17.8%)( $p<0.05$ ). Using multivariant analysis, independent prognostic factors were found to be Child

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grading, αFP level, size of the tumor, gross type, and the type of hepatitis virus. The cumulative survival rate of 1, 2, and 3 year in each Group was 31.5%, 17.5%, and 10.8%, respectively in Group B, and 55.7%, 30.2%, and 21.6%, respectively in Group C. The median duration of survival of Group B was significantly shorter than that of Group C(5.0 vs. 13 months)( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion :** About 90 % of HCC was associated with hepatitis B or C viral infection in Korea. Hepatitis B virus associated HCC had poorer prognosis compared with hepatitis C virus associated HCC in Korea.(Korean J Med 60:22-31, 2001)

**Key Words :** Carcinoma, Hepatocellular; Hepatitis B virus; Hepatitis C virus; Prognosis

80% B C

“ ” B C 20-22)

가 20)

85%

( )<sup>1, 2)</sup> B C

가 ,

10 20 , , 10 5 , , 12, 23)

가 3-6)

가 가 .

10 30 , . 1991 4 1994 4 3

7 603

7),

8),

9)

B ( HBV ) , C 1.

( HCV ) ,

, aflatoxin 가 1991 4 1994 4 3

가 . HBV

B ( HBsAg ) (282 ), αFP 가 400 ng/mL

55 - 80% <sup>10-12)</sup> 1989 Choo 가 (321 ) 603 ( 501

HCV HCV , 102 , 54.2 , 10-86 )

( anti-HCV)

<sup>13, 14)</sup> HBV

HCV HBV 2.

HBV

anti-HCV 65-75% <sup>15-18)</sup> , ( ,

HBV anti-HCV , - ,

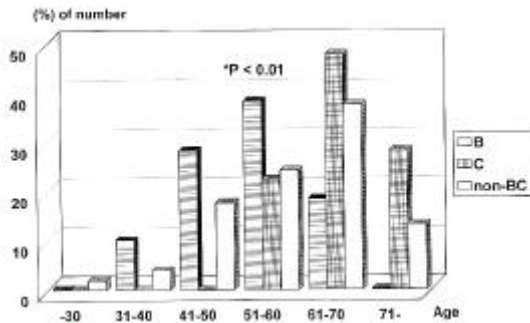
25-50% <sup>11, 12, 19, 20)</sup> ),

.  $p = 0.05$  가 PC-SAS version 6.04 program 가

Child-Pugh A, B, C . B C 1. 603 HBsAg , 455 anti-HCV 603 501 , 102 HBsAg (Enzyme immuno-assay: EIA, Behrinwerke AG, Marburg, Germany) 4.9 : 1 54.2 (10-86) , anti-HCV EIA (Abbott Chicago, IL., USA) , 24 HCV 40 g 5 216 (36.6%) . 424 (70.3%) Child-Pugh (C100-3) 1 EIA 193 (45.5%), B 136 , 431 HCV genome (C100-3, C33c, Core) 2 A 95 (22.4%) EIA . alphafetoprotein (32.1%), C 142 (23.5%) ( dFP) , , 5 cm dFP 가 400 ng/mL 393 (65.4%), 20 ng/mL 94 (15.6%) . 175 (29.6%), 133 (22.5%), 146 type), (nodular), (diffuse infil- (24.7%), 138 (23.3%) 11 179 trative) <sup>1)</sup> . (29.7%), 20 (3.3%), 가 1995 7 31 86 (14.3%) .

2. HBsAg anti-HCV 455 HBsAg 308 (67.7%) , HBsAg 147 (32.3%) , anti-HCV 455 107 (23.5%), HBsAg 149 102 (68.5%)

3. HBsAg anti-HCV ( B ) 303 66.6%, HBsAg (ANOVA- anti-HCV ( C ) 102 (22.4%), 가 ( non-BC ) 45 (9.9%), 가 ( BC ) 5 (1.1%) . C 64.9 B 51.4 , non-BC , 40 test Chi-square 57.5 , B 47 Cox's proportional hazard regression model (15.5%) 가 ( $p < 0.01$ )(Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Age distribution in relation to the type of hepatitis virus.

가 B 68.0%, C 84.3%, non-BC 48.9% (p < 0.05). Child-Pugh

가 B 17.8%, C 35.3% (p < 0.05). aFP

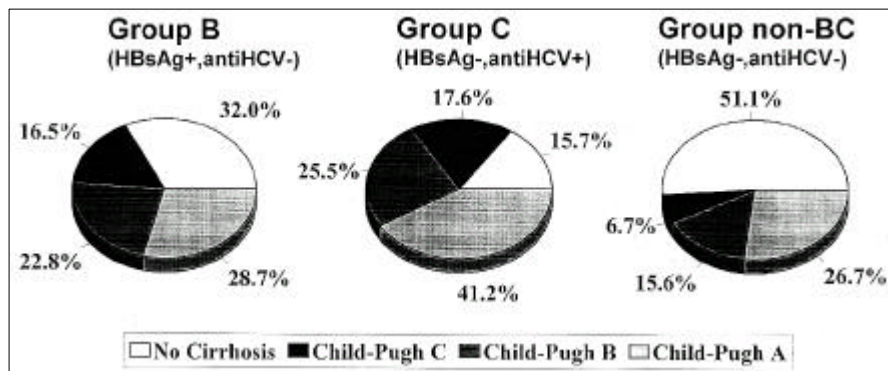
400 ng/mL B 70.0%, C 52.5% (p < 0.01). aFP 가 20 ng/mL

B 11.9%, C 24.8%

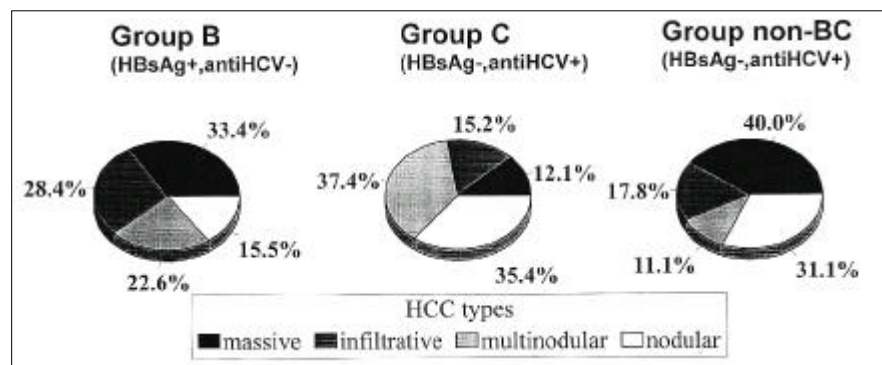
B 31.4%, C 16.7%, non-BC 31.1% (p < 0.05), B

C 3.3%, C 3.9%, B 16.5%, C 9.8%

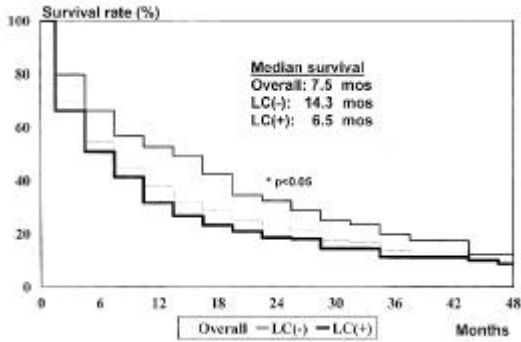
B 33.4%, 15.5%, 22.6%, 28.4%, C 12.1%, 35.4%, 37.4%, 15.2% (p < 0.01)(Figure 3).



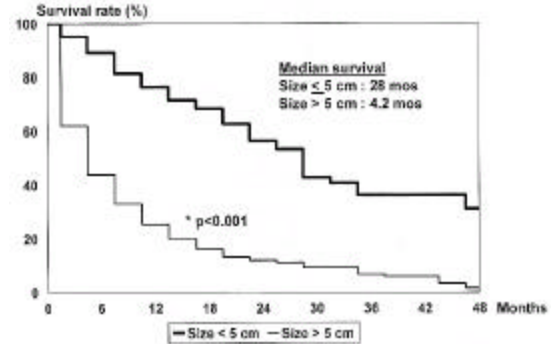
**Figure 2.** Hepatic functional reserves in relation to the type of hepatitis virus.



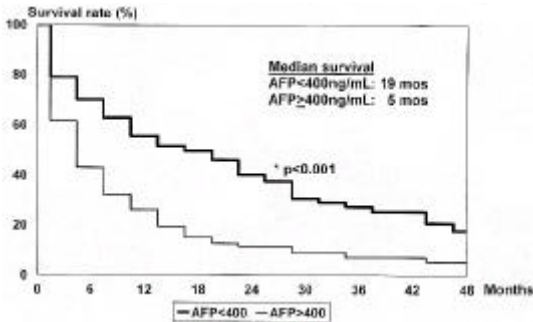
**Figure 3.** Gross types in the patients with hepatocellular carcinoma in relation to the type of hepatitis virus.



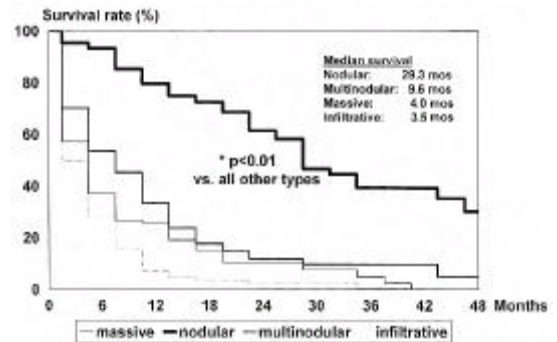
**Figure 4.** Survival curves of the patients with hepatocellular carcinoma in relation to the presence of liver cirrhosis.



**Figure 5.** Survival curves of the patients with hepatocellular carcinoma in relation to the tumor size.



**Figure 6.** Survival curves of the patients with hepatocellular carcinoma.



**Figure 7.** Survival curves of the patients with hepatocellular carcinoma in relation to the gross type.

3.

가 419 1, 2, 3  
37.5%, 22.3%, 13.6%

7.5 . , , , .

가 .  
1, 2, 3  
51.7%, 32.4%, 19.7%,  
31.6%, 18.4%, 11.2%

14.3 ,  
6.5 가 ( $p < 0.01$ )

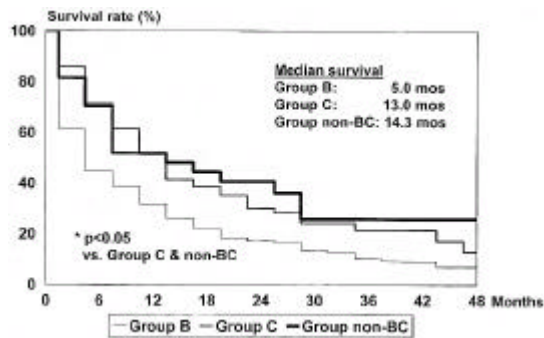
(Figure 4).

5 cm 28  
5 cm 6.5 ,  
가 ( $p < 0.001$ ) (Figure 5). AFP 가  
400 ng/mL 5 AFP , , 174

가 400 ng/mL 19  
( $p < 0.01$ ) (Figure 6). AFP 가 20 ng/mL  
21 AFP 가 20 ng/mL  
6.1 ( $p < 0.001$ ).  
3.5  
11.1  
( $p < 0.001$ ).  
4.0 9.3  
가 ( $p < 0.001$ ).  
4 , 29.3 , 9.6 , 3.5  
( $p < 0.001$ ) (Figure 7).  
80 (13.3%)  
287 (47.6%)

1, 2, 3 88.7%, 78.0%, 4, B  
55.8%, 28.6%, 12.7%, , C 6  
6.4% , 45 25.1 가  
5.8 가 , non-BC  
( $p < 0.0001$ ). 가 4.8 ,  
13 , 가 24.5 가 ( $p < 0.05$ ).  
Child-Pugh B  
13.8 7.5 가 B  
3 , 6 , 1 28.4 % , 2.5 Child-Pugh A  
19.3 % , 9.2 % 1.8 8.1 , C 6  
aFP 가 400 18.8 가 ( $p < 0.001$ ). aFP  
ng/mL , Child , 가 가 400 ng/mL  
( $p < 0.05$ ). B 3.8 , 11 , C 6.5 , 26.3 ,  
non-BC 8.8 , 29.3 가  
( $p < 0.001$ ).  
4. 가

B 1, 2, 3  
31.8%, 17.3%, 10.2%, C 55.7%, 30.2%,  
21.6%, non-BC 50.1%, 40.7%, 24.1% ,  
B 5 , C 13 , non-BC 14.3  
B C non-BC 가  
( $p < 0.05$ ) (Figure 8).



**Figure 8.** Survival curves of the patients with hepatocellular carcinoma in relation to the type of hepatitis virus.

가 , C  
7.8 가 ( $p < 0.05$ ).  
14.5 가

( $p < 0.001$ ). B 1.5 , C 2.6 ,  
non-BC 1.6 .  
가 6  
24) 10% , ,  
8) .  
HBV HCV 가  
HBV HBV  
HBsAg  
55-80%  
, ,  
25-27) 603 455  
(75.5%)가 HBsAg , HBsAg anti-HCV  
455 308 (67.7%)  
가 HBsAg 가  
HBsAg anti-HCV  
가  
HBsAg , ,  
anti-HCV 50-75% 28-31) ,

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12.2- 18.1% <sup>11, 12, 19, 20)</sup> 가  
HBsAg anti-HCV 455  
107 (23.5%)가 anti-HCV HBsAg  
68.5%가 anti-HCV . B αFP ,  
B (Child-Pugh ),  
가  
C C , 가 , ,  
가 , 가 <sup>35, 39)</sup> ,  
HBV HCV , αFP  
, HBV HCV <sup>40, 41)</sup> 3  
cm  
HCV HBV , αFP  
가 <sup>12, 20, 23)</sup> ,  
<sup>32, 35, 38, 42-44)</sup>  
3  
가 ,  
가 , 가  
4.9 : 1, 54.2  
70.3% 60-85% , ,  
<sup>10, 12, 32, 33)</sup> , 13  
13.8 , 28 7.5 가  
가 가  
가 ,  
<sup>45-47)</sup>  
가  
가 , 5 cm  
αFP 가 400 ng/mL 65.4%  
<sup>12, 23, 32)</sup> αFP 가 <sup>48)</sup> ,  
20 ng/mL 15.6% 94 αFP 455 가 313  
B C  
αFP non-BC ,  
603 가 419 5 cm 가 C B  
7.5 , αFP 가 400 ng/mL  
C B  
<sup>33-38)</sup> ,  
가 ,  
: B C

7 :  
가 B C  
. 5) 1, 2, 3 B  
31.5%, 17.5%, 10.8%, C 55.7%, 30.2%, 21.6%,  
non-BC 50.1%, 40.7%, 24.1% ,  
B 5, C 13, non-BC 14.3  
B C non-BC 가  
( $p < 0.05$ ).  
: 90 % B C  
, B  
C non-BC 가  
. B  
aFP 가 가 , 가 ,  
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2  
HBsAg anti-HCV 455  
HBsAg(+), anti-HCV(-) (B ) 303  
(66.6%), HBsAg(-), anti-HCV(+) (C ) 102  
(22.4%), HBsAg(-), anti-HCV(-) (non-BC  
) 45 (9.9%) , HBsAg(+), anti-HCV(+)  
5 (1.1%) . C  
64.9 B 51.3 non-BC 57.5  
( $p < 0.001$ ). 3) C  
84.3% B 68.0% ( $p < 0.05$ ). aFP 가  
400 ng/mL B 70.0% C 52.0%  
( $p < 0.05$ ). 5 cm  
가 C 35.3%, B 17.8% C B  
( $p < 0.05$ ). C B  
( $p < 0.001$ ).  
C 16.7% B 31.4% non-BC  
31.1% ( $p < 0.05$ ).  
B 19.8%, C 13.7%  
. 4) 603 가  
419 1, 2, 3 38.8%, 21.3%,  
14.1% , 7  
12  
1.8  
Child , aFP ,

5) 1, 2, 3 B  
31.5%, 17.5%, 10.8%, C 55.7%, 30.2%, 21.6%,  
non-BC 50.1%, 40.7%, 24.1% ,  
B 5, C 13, non-BC 14.3  
B C non-BC 가  
( $p < 0.05$ ).  
: 90 % B C  
, B  
C non-BC 가  
. B  
aFP 가 가 , 가 ,  
. 1995  
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